

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 SSO-00 CCO-00 NEA-10 NSCE-00

ACDA-10 EUR-12 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 /074 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JTRATTNER:HHB

APPROVED BY S/PRS - ROBERT L. FUNSETH

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P 200146Z MAY 75 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 117130 TOSEC 010061

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, MAY 19, 1975

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS (FUNSETH)

NO. 4

WIRES

AP'S FREED, IN EARLY-AFTERNOON VIENNA STORY, QUOTES HAK AS
TELLING NEWSMEN "WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS' WITH SOVIET
UNION BUT THAT HE HOPES "WE WILL MAKE SOME PROGRESS" IN
OVERCOMING THEM. FREED SAYS HAK WAS "VAGUE" ABOUT
THE PROBLEMS, BUT SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS ON
PLANE SUNDAY THAT DIFFICULTIES EXIST IN CURRENT SALT
NEGOTIATIONS. OFFICIAL, WRITES FREED, SAID GROMYKO "WAS
EXPECTED TO HAVE SOME IDEAS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO A
COMPROMISE, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF HOW TO VERIFY COM-
PLIANCE WITH WHATEVER (SALT) AGREEMENT IS REACHED". FREED
SAYS HAK INDICATED THAT THE NEED FOR U.S.-SOVIET
COOPERATION GOES BEYOND NEEDS OF TWO COUNTRIES, AND THAT
UNCLASSIFIED

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WORLD SECURITY DEPENDS ON MOMENTUM OF PEACE.

UPI'S GROWALD, IN VIENNA PIECE DATED NOON EDT, SAYS U.S.
DRIVE FOR SALT AGREEMENT AND SOVIET PUSH FOR KREMLIN'S

MIDDLE EAST PEACE PLAN HEAD VIENNA AGENDA. GROWALD WRITES THAT SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL TOLD REPORTERS HAK HOPES VIENNA MEETING "COULD UNLEASH A STRING OF EVENTS LEADING TO SIGNING" OF SALT PACT DURING BREZHNEV VISIT IN THE FALL. OFFICIAL, HOWEVER, STRESSED THAT HAK WOULD MAKE NO NEW PROPOSALS TO GROMYKO, ACCORDING TO GROWALD; HAK WANTS GROMYKO TO "INSTRUCT SOVIET DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATORS IN GENEVA TO WORK ON TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE TREATY -- SUCH AS HOW ONE SIDE COULD BE SURE THE OTHER WAS ABIDING BY THE LIMITATIONS". U.S. OFFICIAL IS FURTHER QUOTED THAT GROMYKO IS SURE TO PROBE HAK ON U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD GENEVA CONFERENCE. HAK, OFFICIAL IS REPORTED AS SAYING, WILL GIVE GROMYKO "LITTLE DATA" AND AMERICAN POLICY ON MIDDLE EAST "WILL NOT BE FIXED" UNTIL AFTER PRESIDENT'S MEETINGS WITH SADAT AND RABIN.

REUTERS' NELSON, IN EARLY-AFTERNOON VIENNA STORY, SAYS HAK-GROMYKO BEGAN TALKS "IN SEARCH OF A COMPROMISE TO ENSURE STRICT VERIFICATION" OF FUTURE SALT ACCORD. OFFICIALS, SAYS NELSON, EXPECTED FIRST DAY IN VIENNA TO COVER NUCLEAR ARMS ISSUE, SECOND DAY TO GO TO MIDDLE EAST QUESTIONS. U.S. OFFICIALS, SAYS STORY, CAUTIONED AGAINST EXPECTING TOO MUCH FROM VIENNA TALKS BUT SAID THEY HOPED FOR SOME HEADWAY ON GUIDELINES ON VERIFICATION. "U.S. SOURCES", SAYS NELSON, ALSO EXPECTED DISCUSSION ON NEXT STAGE OF CSCE.

EARLIER NELSON PIECE SAID SENIOR OFFICIAL ON HAK PLANE SAID SUNDAY U.S. "HAD DETECTED HINTS OF A SOVIET PROPOSAL THAT COULD PROVIDE THE BASIS FOR A COMPROMISE SOLUTION" ON INCLUSION OF SOVIET SS-19 IN MIRV-ED MISSILE COUNT.

LATER STORY FROM NELSON SAYS HAK AND GROMYKO REPORTED MONDAY NIGHT THEY HAD MADE "SOME PROGRESS" IN FIVE HOURS OF TALKS ON SALT, EUROPEAN SECURITY AND OTHER WORLD PROBLEMS. NELSON QUOTES HAK THAT "THE FOREIGN UNCLASSIFIED

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MINISTER AND I HAD A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE SITUATION. WE ALSO DISCUSSED THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE AND WE BEGAN A DISCUSSION OF THE SALT. THE TALKS WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND WERE CONDUCTED IN A CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE. I WOULD SAY ON THE TOPICS DISCUSSED SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE." STORY SAYS GROMYKO DESCRIBED TALKS AS USEFUL AND SAID HE AGREED WITH HAK ASSESSMENT.

NEWSPAPERS

LA TIMES: ABRAMSON LEAD SAYS SENIOR U.S. OFFICIALS INDICATED SUNDAY THE U.S. IS WILLING TO COMPROMISE WITH SOVIETS ON A "KEY ISSUE POTENTIALLY THREATENING EFFORTS

TO WRITE" A NEW SALT TREATY. WITHOUT EXPLAINING HOW COM-PROMISE MIGHT WORK, HE WRITES, OFFICIALS SUGGESTED U. S. "MIGHT AGREE TO ALTER ITS DEMANDS FOR METHODS TO VERIFY WHETHER CERTAIN SOVIET ICBMS WERE EQUIPPED WITH MULTIPLE WARHEADS". ABRAMSON QUOTES OFFICIALS THAT THERE IS A "GOOD CHANCE" UNDERSTANDING CAN BE WORKED OUT FOR VERIFY-ING WHETHER SS-18 SOVIET MISSILES ARE MIRV-ED. RUSSIANS HAVE ALWAYS REJECTED ON-SITE INSPECTION CONCEPT, AND "U.S. OFFICIALS CONCEDED SUNDAY THIS METHOD OF VERIFICATION IS INDEED FALLIBLE". AS IF TO DE-EMPHASIZE IMPORTANCE OF MIRV-ED SS-18, HE WRITES, U.S. OFFICIALS "NOTED THAT IN SOME WAYS AN SS-18 WITH A SINGLE WARHEAD IS MORE DANGEROUS". OFFICIALS, ABRAMSON SAYS, SAID THEY DO NOT EXPECT HAK AND GROMYKO TO MAKE A BREAKTHROUGH IN VIENNA, BUT THAT IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THEY CAN ACCOMPLISH ENOUGH "TO GET TECHNICAL NEGOTIATORS ON BOTH SIDES PAST THE VERIFICATION SNAG" WHEN GENEVA MEETINGS RESUME NEXT MONTH. THIS WEEKEND, HE ADDS, VERIFICATION PANEL OF THE SALT DELEGA-TION MEETS IN WASHINGTON TO REVIEW CURRENT SITUATION AND ANY RESULTS FROM VIENNA MEETINGS.

APART FROM SALT, SAYS ABRAMSON, VIENNA TALKS WILL DEAL MOSTLY WITH MIDDLE EAST AND SCHEDULED CSCE SUMMIT.

RADIO

MARVIN KALB, CBS RADIO FROM VIENNA: "I HOPE YOUR INTELLI-GENCE IS BETTER THAN MINE," HAK QUIPPED, "I WAS TOLD IT UNCLASSIFIED

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WAS VERY COOL HERE." "IT IS HOT IN MOSCOW, TOO," CAME GROMYKO'S DEADPAN RESPONSE. AND WITH THAT LESS-THAN-ILLUMINATING EXCHANGE OVER, THE REPORTERS AND CAMERAMEN WERE QUICKLY USHERED OUT OF THE SECRETARY'S HOTEL AND THE TWO DIPLOMATS BEGAN TWO DAYS OF CRITICAL TALKS, FOCUSING TONIGHT ON THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR NEGOTIATION WHICH IS DEADLOCKED BUT OVERSHADOWED BY A KISSINGER CONCERN THAT BECAUSE OF RECENT AMERICAN SETBACKS IN INDOCHINA THE RUSSIANS MAY PERCEIVE THE UNITED STATES TO BE A PAPER TIGER, UNWILLING OR, MORE IMPORTANT, UNABLE TO PROTECT ITS NATIONAL INTERESTS. THE SECRETARY HOPES THAT THE RUSSIANS DRAW A DIFFERENT IMPRESSION FROM THE SHOW OF AMERICAN FORCE LAST WEEK DURING THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. HAK DOES NOT ARTICULATE THAT HOPE BUT IT'S CLEAR HE HAS IT, AND IN THIS CONTEXT THE MEETINGS TONIGHT AND TOMORROW ARE REGARDED AS CRUCIAL TO FURTHER EVOLUTION OF EAST-WEST DETENTE.

EVENING TV

ABC'S SMITH, INTRODUCING PIECE FROM KOPPEL: "THERE'S A LOT OF INFORMATION AVAILABLE TODAY ON WHAT HENRY AND NANCY KISSINGER HAD FOR LUNCH AND WHO LED WHOM INTO THE

ROOM FOR THE FIRST VIENNA SESSION BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. THAT'S WHAT REPORTERS SEND BACK TO THE HOME FOLKS WHEN THEY HAVEN'T GOT MUCH SUBSTANTIVE TO REPORT. WHILE NOT MUCH YET TO REPORT, THERE'S CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT TO THE MEETING. FROM VIENNA TED KOPPEL TALKS ABOUT THAT". KOPPEL: "THERE IS A LIMITED CHOICE OF NEUTRAL COUNTRIES IN EUROPE. KISSINGER WANTED TO AVOID SWITZERLAND THIS TIME AROUND, BECAUSE IT CALLS TO MIND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, WHICH THE UNITED STATES STILL HOPES TO BYPASS. SO THE CHOICE WAS VIENNA, KISSINGER ARRIVING LAST NIGHT, GROMYKO THIS MORNING. THE SCHEDULED AGENDA FOCUSES ON THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE, THE EFFORT TO GET A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT, AND THE SMOLDERING POWDER KEG IN THE MIDDLE EAST. FOR MOST OF TODAY, HOWEVER, KISSINGER WAS A VISIBLE STUDY IN NONCHALANCE, VISITING VIENNA'S FAMOUS SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL IN THE MORNING, AND THEN ESCORTING HIS WIFE, NANCY, TO LUNCH AT ONE OF UNCLASSIFIED

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THE MORE RENOWNED RESTAURANTS IN TOWN. THE ANIMATED CHATTER THAT PRECEDED THIS AFTERNOON'S FIRST MEETING MASKED AN OMINOUS UNDERCURRENT TO THESE TALKS. THIS IS THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET-AMERICAN MEETING SINCE THE FALL OF CAMBODIA AND SOUTH VIET-NAM, AND KISSINGER IS DETERMINED TO LEAVE NO DOUBT WHATSOEVER IN GROMYKO'S MIND ABOUT THE CONTINUING FORCEFULNESS OF AMERICAN INTENTIONS. THE OVERRIDING ATMOSPHERE OF CAUTION GIVES LITTLE PROMISE OF SPECTACULAR DIPLOMACY. AND SO, OVER TEA AND COOKIES AT THE IMPERIAL HOTEL, KISSINGER AND GROMYKO LAUNCHED A DISCUSSION, THE RESULTS OF WHICH WON'T BECOME VISIBLE FOR WEEKS TO COME. NEITHER SIDE IS EXPECTING A BREAKTHROUGH, IN EITHER THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS OR IN THE AGONIZINGLY SLOW PROCESS TOWARDS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. BUT THESE TALKS ARE ESSENTIAL NEVERTHELESS TO RESTORE MOMENTUM TO THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH STALLED A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO IN GENEVA, AND TO THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS, WHICH ARE NOW A NECESSITY LOOKING FOR A QUORUM".

NBC'S CHANCELLOR: "SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO SAT DOWN TODAY TOGETHER IN VIENNA FOR TWO DAYS OF TALKS DEVOTED TO DETENTE, STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND OTHER MATTERS AFFECTING BOTH SUPERPOWERS. KISSINGER TOLD REPORTERS 'I THINK WE'LL MAKE SOME PROGRESS HERE'. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS FRIENDLY -- AND, AS RICHARD VALERIANI REPORTS FROM VIENNA, THIS MEETING IS ONE IN WHICH ATMOSPHERE MAY BE AS IMPORTANT AS SUBSTANCE". VALERIANI: "GROMYKO ARRIVED TODAY AND WENT TO KISSINGER'S HOTEL FOR A LATE-AFTERNOON MEETING AND A WORKING DINNER.

THEY HAD AN EXTRA-LONG HANDSHAKE FOR THE BENEFIT OF PHOTOGRAPHERS BEFORE GOING INSIDE TO BEGIN TALKING ABOUT AMERICAN-SOVIET NEGOTIATIONS ON LIMITING OFFENSIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE CURRENTLY STALLED ON THE PROBLEM OF COUNTING MULTIPLE-WARHEAD MISSILES ONCE THEY'RE DEPLOYED. BUT THE AMERICAN SIDE IS CONFIDENT THE PROBLEM OF VERIFICATION, AND OTHER TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES, WILL BE WORKED OUT IN TIME FOR A FORD-BREZHNEV SUMMIT THIS FALL. TODAY'S AGENDA ALSO INCLUDED A DISCUSSION OF THE LONG-DRAGGED-OUT EUROPEAN SECURITY UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFERENCE, WHICH IS LIKELY TO END WITH AN EAST-WEST SUMMIT MEETING OF 35 HEADS OF GOVERNMENT SOMETIME THIS SUMMER. KISSINGER AND GROMYKO CAME TO VIENNA THIS TIME, RATHER THAN GOING TO GENEVA, THEIR USUAL MEETING PLACE, BECAUSE GENEVA IS TOO CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE, SOMETHING WHICH THE RUSSIANS ARE PUSHING BUT WHICH THE AMERICANS ARE STILL TRYING TO FINESSE. THE TWO MEN WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO RENEW THEIR DISAGREEMENT OVER THE MIDDLE EAST DURING TOMORROW'S TALKS. NOTHING CONCRETE IS EXPECTED TO RESULT FROM THESE MEETINGS, AT LEAST NOT IMMEDIATELY, BUT IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT SETBACKS TO AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY AROUND THE WORLD, THE ATMOSPHERICS HERE WILL PROBABLY BE AS IMPORTANT AS THE SUBSTANCE".

CBS'S KALB: "KISSINGER HAD JUST TAKEN HIS WIFE NANCY TO ONE OF THOSE FAMOUS VIENNESE LUNCHEONS -- TOPPED BY CHOCOLATE CAKE AND WHIPPED CREAM -- WHEN HE CAME UPON AN

EXAMPLE OF MIDDLE AMERICA IN MIDDLE EUROPE: A YANKEE TOURIST BELLOWING OUT HIS PRIDE AT THE WAY THE U.S. USED ITS POWER TO RECOVER THE MERCHANT SHIP MAYAGUEZ. BUT EVEN AS KISSINGER, SITTING IN DARK SHADOW, WATCHED A PERFORMANCE OF THE HIGH-STRUTTING HORSES OF THE SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL, HE SEEMED PREOCCUPIED BY INDOCHINA, BY THE OBVIOUS PROBLEMS OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS. CLEARLY, THE BLOOM IS OFF DETENTE. AFTER A COURTESY CALL ON AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY, A REPORTER ASKED ARE YOUR

EXPECTATIONS HIGH FOR THIS GROMYKO MEETING? NO, BEGAN KISSINGER'S CAUTIOUS RESPONSE." KISSINGER: "NO, WE HAVE SOME PROBLEMS TO REVIEW AND I HOPE WE'LL MAKE SOME PROGRESS". KALB: "THE USUAL HANDSHAKES PRECEDED THIS MEETING, THEIR FIRST SINCE THE AMERICAN DEBACLE IN VIET-NAM. BUT THEIR SMILES WERE THIN. TONIGHT THEY FOCUS FOR THE MOST PART ON THE STRATEGIC ARMS NEGOTIATIONS, NOW DEADLOCKED OVER THE ISSUE OF VERIFICATION. KISSINGER WANTS TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK; APPARENTLY, GROMYKO DOES, TOO -- BOTH SIDES LOOKING TOWARDS FINAL AGREEMENT, IF POSSIBLE, BY THE TIME SOVIET

LEADER BREZHNEV VISITS PRESIDENT FORD THIS FALL. MORE
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IMPORTANT, PERHAPS, THAN ANY ONE ISSUE, KISSINGER WANTS TO DISABUSE THE RUSSIANS OF ONE DANGEROUS NOTION -- THAT BECAUSE OF RECENT AMERICAN SETBACKS IN INDOCHINA, THE U.S. HAS BECOME A KIND OF PAPER TIGER. OVERALL, THEREFORE, KISSINGER IS STRESSING A REASONABLY HARD LINE IN POLICY, BACKED UP BY THAT SHOW LAST WEEK OF AMERICAN MILITARY STRENGTH DURING THE MAYAGUEZ EPISODE."

EARLY EVENING FREED STORY SAID: "BOTH TERMED THEIR TALKS CONSTRUCTIVE. ...

MOST OF THE DISCUSSIONS DURING THE AFTERNOON AND AT A WORKING DINNER FOCUSED ON ARRANGING A LARGE-SCALE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE, AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID.

THE TWO DIPLOMATS ALSO BEGAN PRELIMINARY TALKS ON A STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TREATY, THE OFFICIALS SAID, AND THIS WILL BE THE SUBJECT WHEN THEY MEET AGAIN TUESDAY MORNING, WITH EMPHASIS ON HOW TO VERIFY COMPLIANCE.

MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS ALSO WILL BE TOUCHED ON TUESDAY BUT ONLY IN A PRELIMINARY FASHION, THE U.S. OFFICIALS ADDED....

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECRETARY SAID SOME PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE ON THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE, BUT OTHER AMERICAN SOURCES INDICATED THIS WAS VIRTUALLY PROCEDURAL. ..."

LATE STORY FROM UPI'S GROWALD SAID: "SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER SAID MONDAY NIGHT HE AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO HAVE MADE SOME PROGRESS TOWARD AN OFFENSIVE NUCLEAR ARMS TREATY. ... KISSINGER TOLD REPORTERS, "WE HAD A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE SITUATION. WE DISCUSSED THE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE AND BEGAN A DISCUSSION OF SALT (STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION TALKS). THE DISCUSSION WAS CONSTRUCTIVE AND WAS CONDUCTED IN A

FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE.

DID YOU TWO MAKE PROGRESS ON SALT? ASKED A NEWSMAN. SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE, KISSINGER REPLIED." ...
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, TOSEC 10061, NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE117130
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/PRS:JTRATTNER:HHB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750176-0512
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197505103/baaaakdk.tel
Line Count: 324
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 Sep 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006